REMARKS

By this amendment, applicants have amended claim 4 to be in independent form by including therein all of the limitations previously recited in claim 1 and the non-duplicative limitations recited in claim 3. Claim 6 has been amended to be in independent form by including therein all of the limitations previously recited in claims 1 and 3. While claim 6 previously depended from claim 5, applicants have not specifically recited the limitation of claim 5 in claim 6; rather, applicants have recited that the carrier is rotatably displaceable about the axis of the rotary conveyor. Claim 12 has been amended to eliminate the indefiniteness problem noted by the Examiner in numbered section 2 of the office action. Applicants have canceled claims 1, 3 and 21 - 24 without prejudice or disclaimer and have added claims 27 - 37 to define further aspects of the present invention. Applicants have also amended the dependency of claims 2, 5, 13, 18 and 19.

In view of the foregoing amendments to claim 12, it is submitted all of the claims now in the application comply with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, are requested.

Applicants note the indication of allowable subject matter in, inter alia, claims 4 and 6. In view of the foregoing amendments to claims 4 and 6 (rewriting these claims in independent form), the cancellation of claims 1, 3 and 21 - 24, and the amendments to the dependencies of claims 2, 5, 13, 18 and 19, it is submitted all of the claims now in the application are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is submitted the rejections of the claims under 35 USC 102 and 103 in numbered sections 3 - 9 of the office action are moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, entry of this amendment and favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now in the application are requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 912.40950X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

Alan E Schiavelli

Registration No. 32,087

AES/jla (703) 312-6600